Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The federal Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987 guarantees residents their individual rights in order to promote and maintain their dignity and independence; and,

Whereas, Individuals, providers, and other community groups across the state and the country will celebrate Residents' Rights Month with the theme -*My Voice, My Vote, My Right*- to emphasize the importance of affirming these rights through facility practices, public policy, and resident centered decision making; and,

Whereas, Nearly 6,900 individuals living in 111 nursing homes and 4,120 individuals living in 166 assisted living centers in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, All residents should be aware of their rights and be empowered to live with dignity and self-determination; and,

Whereas, This month is a time to honor and celebrate these community members and reaffirm their rights to have choices in the care they receive:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2012 as

LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENTS' RIGHTS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, and this Twenty-eighth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State